

of 1995 to permit the District of Columbia government to exercise authority over the Public Charter School Board in the same manner as the District government may exercise authority over other entities of the District government. **Page H7881**

**Moment of Silence:** The House observed a moment of silence in honor of our brave men and women in uniform who have given their lives in the service of our nation in Iraq and Afghanistan, their families, and all who serve in our armed forces. **Page H7894**

**Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

**Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building Designation Act:** H.R. 6169, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15455 Manchester Road in Ballwin, Missouri, as the "Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building"; **Pages H7885–86**

**Securities Act of 2008:** H.R. 6513, amended, to amend the Federal securities laws to enhance the effectiveness of the Securities and Exchange Commission's enforcement, corporation finance, trading and markets, investment management, and examination programs; **Pages H7888–93**

**Directing the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to provide individuals whose pay is disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer by electronic funds transfer with the option of receiving receipts of pay and withholdings electronically:** H. Res. 1207, amended, to direct the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to provide individuals whose pay is disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer by electronic funds transfer with the option of receiving receipts of pay and withholdings electronically; **Pages H7896–97**

**House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2008:** H.R. 6608, to provide for the replacement of lost income for employees of the House of Representatives who are members of a reserve component of the armed forces who are on active duty for a period of more than 30 days; **Pages H7897–99**

**Daniel Webster Congressional Clerkship Act of 2008:** H.R. 6475, to establish the Daniel Webster Congressional Clerkship Program; **Pages H7899–H7903**

**Rural Veterans Access to Care Act:** H.R. 1527, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow highly rural veterans enrolled in the health system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive covered health services through providers other than those of the Department; **Pages H7903–07**

**Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2008:** S. 2617, to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify increases in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans that were effective as of December 1, 2007 and to provide for an increase in the rates of such compensation effective December 1, 2008; **Pages H7907–09**

**Veterans' Programs Extension and Construction Authorization Act of 2008:** H.R. 6832, to authorize major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2009 and to extend certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and **Pages H7909–13**

**Prevent All Cigarette Trafficking Act of 2008:** H.R. 4081, amended, to prevent tobacco smuggling and to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes. **Pages H7918–28**

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted a determination concerning Presidential Declaration 2008–19 and the proposed Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Russian Federation for Cooperation in the Field of Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–145). **Page H7930**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7862.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Six yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7894, H7894–95, H7895–96, H7928, H7928–29, H7929–30. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### WEAKENED ECONOMY; HOW TO RESPOND?

**Committee on the Budget:** Held a hearing on a Weakened Economy: How to Respond? Testimony was heard from Lawrence Summers, former Secretary of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

### CHALLENGES FACING BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION SCHOOLS

**Committee on Education and Labor:** Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education held a hearing on Challenges Facing Bureau of Indian Education Schools in Improving Student

Achievement. Testimony was heard from Cornelia Ashby, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, GAO; Anne Campbell Dudro, Chief of Staff, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education; Stanley R. Holder, Chief, Division of Performance and Accountability, Bureau of Indian Education, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

#### NIH REFORM

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “NIH Reform Act of 2006: Progress, Challenges and Next Steps.” Testimony was heard from Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D., Director, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services.

#### U.S.-RUSSIA RELATIONS—POST GEORGIA CRISIS

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Held a hearing on U.S.-Russia Relations in the Aftermath of the Georgia Crisis. Testimony was heard from Daniel Fried, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

#### CLEANING UP TERRORIST WATCHLISTS

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection held a hearing entitled “Ensuring America’s Security: Cleaning Up the Nation’s Watchlists.” Testimony was heard from Kip Hawley, Assistant Secretary, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security; Richard S. Kopel, Principal Deputy Director, Terrorist Screening Center; Cathleen Berrick, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

#### COMPETITION IN THE PACKAGE DELIVERY INDUSTRY

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Held a hearing on Competition in the Package Delivery Industry. Testimony was heard from Senators Brown and Voinovich; Representatives Sutton, Turner and Kaptur; the following officials of the State of Ohio; David Lee Fisher, Lt. Gov., and David Razik, Mayor, Wilmington; Ohio; and public witnesses.

#### D.C. GUN LAWS—IMPACT OF PROPOSED CHANGES

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Held a hearing on the Impact of Proposed Legislation on the District of Columbia’s Gun Laws. Testimony was heard from Kevin C. Hay, Deputy Chief, U.S. Park Police, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Cathy Lanier, Chief, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department; Phillip D. Morse, Sr., Chief, U.S. Capitol Police; and Robert Campbell, former U.S. Secret

Service Agent, Director of Security, Washington Nationals Park.

#### MISSISQUOI AND TROUT RIVERS WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by a non-record vote, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3667, the “Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2008.” The rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill pursuant to Part II of House Report 110–668 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute except for clause 10 of rule XXI.

The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the report. The amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI are waived. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Representatives Grijalva and Bishop of Utah.

The rule tables House Resolution 1399.

#### NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Rules:* On September 8, the Committee heard testimony from Chairman Miller of California and Representatives Sarbanes, Welch of Vermont and Bishop of Utah, but action was deferred on H.R. 3036, No Child Left Inside Act of 2008.

#### VETERANS’ AFFAIRS LEGIONELLA SAMPLES DESTRUCTION

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Investigation and Oversight held a hearing on Bio-banking: How the Lack of a Coherent Policy Allowed the Veterans Administration To Destroy an

Irreplaceable Collection of Legionella Samples. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Jim Vaught, Deputy Director, Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research, National Cancer Institute; and Janet K. A. Nicholson, Senior Advisor, Laboratory Science, Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Michel Moreland, Director, Veterans Integrated Services Network 4; Mona Melhem, Associate Chief of Staff and Vice President, Clinical Support Service Line Pittsburgh Healthcare System; Ali Sonel, Associate Chief of Staff (Research); Steven Graham, Director, Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Centers; and Cheryl Wanzie, Chief Technologist, all with the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.

### TAKING RESPONSIBLE ACTION FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY ACT

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Held a hearing on H.R. 6707, Taking Responsible Action for Community Safety Act. Testimony was heard from the following Representatives: Visclosky, Manzullo, Biggert, Bean, Roskam and Foster; the following officials of the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation: Charles D. Nottingham, Chairman; Francis P. Mulvey, Vice Chairman; and W. Douglas Buttrey, Board Member; the following officials of the State of Illinois: Elaine Nekritz, State Representative; and Tom Weisner, Mayor, Aurora; and public witnesses.

### VETERANS MEASURES

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3051, Heroes at Home Act of 2007; H.R. 6153, Veterans' Medical Personnel Recruitment and Retention Act of 2008; and H.R. 6629, Veterans Health Equity Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from Representatives Salazar and Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas; Gerald M. Cross, M.D., Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

### INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AND AL-QAEDA

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Intelligence Operations and Al-Qaeda. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense, business meeting to mark up Department of Defense appropriations for fiscal year 2009, 10 a.m., SD-192.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* to hold hearings to examine ways to improve consumer protection in the prepaid calling card market, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* to hold hearings to examine improving the Federal Bridge Program, focusing on an assessment of S. 3338, to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System, and H.R. 3999, to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Subcommittee on Transportation Safety, Infrastructure Security, and Water Quality, to hold hearings to examine the quality and environmental impacts of bottled water, 3 p.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Finance:* business meeting to consider S. 3038, to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend the adoption incentives program, to authorize States to establish a relative guardianship program, to promote the adoption of children with special needs, S. 1070, to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and S. 1577, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require screening, including national criminal history background checks, of direct patient access employees of skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and other long-term care facilities and providers, and to provide for nationwide expansion of the pilot program for national and State background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities or providers, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Croatia adopted at Brussels on July 9, 2008, and signed that day on behalf of the United States and the other Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty (Treaty Doc.110-20), 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Sung Y. Kim, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks, C. Steven McGann, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Fiji Islands, and to serve concurrently and without additional